# Family and Consumer Advocacy and Support Group

Aka: Loved Ones

Report of progress- May 1,2017

#### Mission Statement

Our mission is to support the segments of the Erie County Opiate Epidemic Task Force by improving the delivery of services for those affected, advocating for our loved ones while fortifying the community response of attaining our common goal of eliminating addiction, illness and death from opiate use.

#### We envision a joint effort to:

- show respect for all people
- minimize health, legal and social harms associated with substance use
- provide comfort and compassion to those affected by addition
- advocate for available, affordable, comprehensive therapeutic services for the addicted
- educate the public
- focus on prevention
- reduce harm among families and individuals
- pursue legal enactments to further our goal.
- eradicate this public health crisis from our community and our homes

#### Goals

Save Lives.

Eliminate addiction, illness and death from opiate use.

Advocate for our loved ones.

## Subgroups

- Event Resource and Planning
- Lobbying
- Community education
- Grief Support/ Parenting Support

## Subgroup Purposes

Grief Support Group

To offer comfort and support to those suffering from the disease of addiction

Community Education

To develop Public Awareness of the Epidemic by offering knowledge from personal experience

#### Event Planning and Resource Development

- Create or attend events to further our mission of comfort and support. To break the stigma of addiction.
- Speaker Group of those with personal experience.

#### Lobbying Efforts

- Strengthen Laws to Support Consequences
- Judiciary to be aware of our community concern and interest
- Strengthen Legislative processes to represent our Community Interests

## Putting a Face on Addiction

- News
- Social Media
- Personal Stories
- Public Statements
- Private Statements
- Lending out our Personal Stories Library

#### Educate the Public

March 6, 2017- Black Balloon Day





## Community Narcan Classes

Training Class, Saturday, June 3rd Ipm



The Genesis Center 2161 Seneca Street Buffalo.

## South Buffalo Walk For Hope

May 20 Walk of Hope- Cazenovia Park
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#### Continue to:

- Advocate for Services for Loved Ones
- Lobby our Cause
- Pursue Legal Consequences for Drug Dealers
- Encourage Cooperation between all Segments of the Task Force
- Support Recommendations from all Task Force Segments for improved Service Delivery

## Our Goal Accomplishments 2017

• Family Support Groups, Hamburg/ Buffalo

- Continue lobbying efforts in the Courts/ Legislature
  - Consequences for convicted drug dealers
  - No one who asks for treatment should be turned away
  - Humane Treatment for Addiction/ Mental Health

### We are Grateful

We are a group of passionate, professional, trained individuals who are willing to support your objectives.

How can we assist you?

## We Are Not Alone

## Thank You

